

**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claim 21 has been objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c). Claim 21 has been cancelled.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Kimura et al. (WO 03/023808) or under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kimura (US 2005/0179383). Claim 1 has been cancelled.

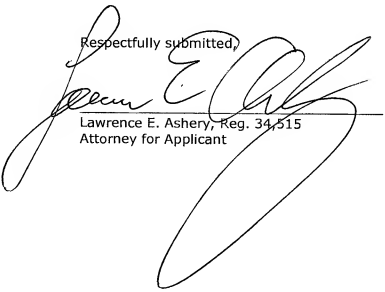
Claims 10 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura as applied to claim 1. Claims 10 and 21 have been cancelled.

Claims 2, 3, 5 - 9, 11 - 14, 16 - 20, 22 and 23 have been allowed.

Claims 4 and 15 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form. Claim 15 is allowable by virtue of its dependency on claim 4.

In view of the amendments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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LEA/so

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